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val and modern world. Less concerned with the relation of the Latin to older languages than with its relation to those which have grown out of it, he should understand, in other fields also, the sway exercised by the mighty tradition of Rome even through the ages when the Forum was a cattle-pasture and the Colosseum a quarry. Every feature of Rome's transmitted life, in architecture and the other arts as well as in literature and philosophy and law and political ideals, should have its place in his final impression of the subject, which should embrace the suggestions of the excavated Forum and the scattered pavements of Roman highways all over the territories of the empire, of Saint Peter's basilica and the Christianized Pantheon, and of the treasures of the Vatican as well as the impalpable accumulations in the museums of language. Now at length, in addition to all he has got from his Latin that is linguistic and indispensable, he will be in a position to appreciate somewhat the quality of the civilization that is reflected from the focus of the ancient world.

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### REVIEWS

Essentials of Latin. By Henry Carr Pearson, of the Horace Mann School, New York. New York: American Book Co. (1905). Pp. 320.

The aim of this book, as stated in the preface, is to prepare pupils in a thorough fashion to read Caesar's Gallic war. No great knowledge of English grammar is taken for granted but the syntactical points are carefully and simply explained from an English point of view. All explanations and notes, with the exception of foot notes, are printed in the same size type as the paradigms and sentences, thereby helping the pupil to feel the importance of reading or learning the same. In each lesson, after a paradigm or principle of syntax has been given, attention is called to the important points and questions are asked which direct the attention and still leave the work to be done by the pupil. This is a great saving in time in the recitation, and gives a more definite help than when the book must be constantly explained and elaborated upon by the teacher. The vocabulary is shorter than in most books for beginners, but, as only those words are used that will be needed in reading Caesar, at the end of the year fully as much, if not more, has been gained as if more words had been given.

Nearly every lesson contains review exercises in translating from Latin into English and from English into Latin, making use of the vocabulary and constructions of the preceding lessons. Occasional reading lessons occur in which the story of the first ten chapters of Caesar's campaign against the Helvetians is simply told

The first seventy lessons contain all the constructions of syntax necessary before beginning to read Caesar. The topics are so grouped that four or five lessons are devoted to one subject before passing on to a new one.

After these preparatory lessons, six lessons are added containing explanations of the use of conditional sentences, wishes, indirect discourse, the impersonal use of verbs, and periphrastic conjugations. These may be taken up while reading Caesar or may be introduced before. They do not depend on any of the preceding lessons and may be taken up in connection with any other lesson or in any order that the teacher may wish.

The selections for reading in the back of the book comprise, first, stories of Roman History from Viri Romae, then the first 20 chapters of Book II of the Gallic war, in simplified form.

In the appendix the tables of declension, conjugation, etc., are given, with the English meanings for the forms of the regular verbs, except in the subjunctive. Then follows a brief synopsis of the Rules of Syntax, summarizing the uses of the different cases, the subjunctive mood, etc.; this synopsis did not appear in the first edition.

Especially worthy of note is the clear and simple manner of presenting the construction of the verb forms. Each tense is explained carefully; then, after the six tenses of the active voice have been given, a summary of their formation is made on page 49. In the case of the imperfect subjunctive it seems to the writer of this review a mistake to explain the form as the present infinitive plus the personal endings.

The whole book, in its simplicity and clearness, is one which the average pupil can readily master, and, after practical experience with this and several others both in beginners' classes and with private pupils, the reviewer feels that it justifies its existence among its numerous rivals by really accomplishing its aim.

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Sprechen Sie Lateinisch? Moderne Konversation in Lateinischer Sprache. By Georg Capellanus. Fourth Edition. Leipzig: Koch. Pp. 119. 2 mk.

From those who believe with Michael Finsbury, in Robert Louis Stevenson-Lloyd Osbourne's *The Wrong Box*, that there is "nothing like a little judicious levity", or who would answer *nihil* to Cicero's question in the *Tusculans*, *Quid est dulcius otio litterato?*, this little book, with its interesting, sprightly, and sparkling dialogue, is sure to receive a welcome. Keeping far from the madding crowd of mechanical and stilted phrases usually found in books of this kind, and holding itself aloof from the vapidness of the Ollendorffian method, it is decidedly